

Docket No.: 21581-00271-US

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Yoshiki Nakagawa, et al.

Application No.: 09/870,397

Filed: May 31, 2001

For: FUNCTIONAL GROUPS-TERMINATED

VINYL POLYMERS

Group Art Unit: 1712

Examiner: M. Moore

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## **AMENDMENT**

**Box Non-Fee Amendment** Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

01/17/2003 SSESHE1 00000096 220185 09870397 02 FC:1251 110.00 CH

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 17, 2002 (Paper No. 7), please amend the above-identified U.S. Patent application as follows:

## In the Claims

Please cancel claim 23 without prejudice to its reentry at some later date and amend claims 13, 17, 20 and 21 to read as follows:

13. (Amended) A vinyl polymer which has at least one terminal functional group per molecule and has a ratio of weight average molecular weight to number average molecular weight of less than 1.8 as determined by gel permeation chromatography, said terminal functional group being a crosslinking silyl group of the general formula (1) shown below, or a hydroxyl group of the general formula (8), (9), (10), (11) or (12) shown below,

$$-\{Si(R^{1})_{2-b}(Y)_{b}O\}_{m}-S_{1}(R^{2})_{3-a}(Y)_{a}$$
 (1)

wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> each independently represents an alkyl group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, an aryl group containing 6 to 20 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group containing 7 to 20 carbon atoms, or a triorganosiloxy group of the formula (R')<sub>3</sub>SiO-, R' being a monovalent hydrocarbon

